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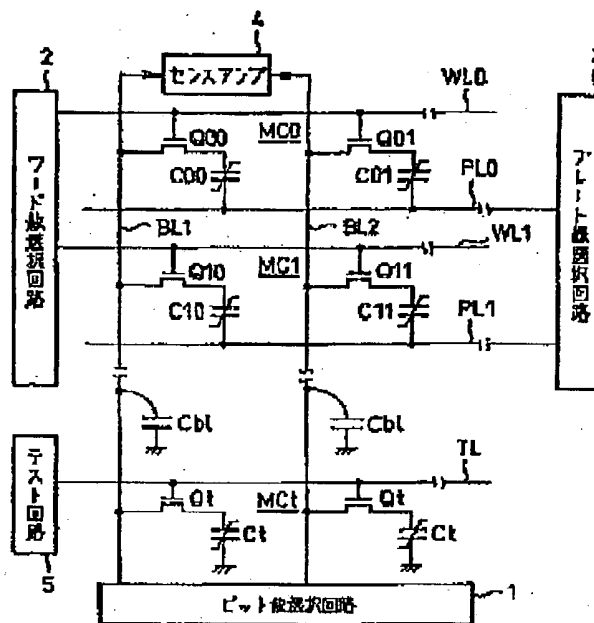
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TITLE : FERROELECTRIC MEMORY



ABSTRACT : **PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To screen ferroelectrics without actually deteriorating the same by adding a test capacitor to a floating capacitor of a read line and generating an equivalent capacity, at the time of screening, to capacity when the ferroelectric capacitor of a memory cell is actually deteriorated.

SOLUTION: A test dielectric capacitor Ct is connected in parallel to a bit line capacitor Cb1, thereby, a parallel capacitance is increased. A potential generated to a bit line becomes lower than a potential generated at a normal mode. This indicates that the same potential as in a state where a capacitance of a ferroelectric capacitor is decreased, that is, where the ferroelectric capacitor is deteriorated is generated. Whether or not the dielectric capacitor is good can be judged from an operation state of a sense amplifier 4 which is determined to operate, not to operate by whether a difference of the potential of the bit line impressed to the sense amplifier 4 and a potential of a reference voltage is larger or smaller than a detection level of the sense amplifier 4.

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